Message Text

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PAGE 01 SAN SA 03334 300556Z ACTION ARA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 ICA-11 MCT-01 AID-05 SY-05 USSS-00 FBIE-00 IO-13 HA-05 /097 W

R 291825Z JUN 78
FM AMEMBASSY SAN SALVADOR
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8650
INFO AMEMBASSY GUATEMALA
AMEMBASSY MANAGUA
AMEMBASSY SAN JOSE
AMEMBASSY TEGUCIGALPA
USCINCSO QUARRY HEIGHTS CZ
DIA WASHDC

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE SAN SALVADOR 3334

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT, PINS, SHUM, ES, ASEC

SUBJECT: KIDNAP VICTIM RELEASED BY HIS ABDUCTORS

REF: SAN SALVADOR 3237

- 1. MAURICIO SANDOVAL WAS RELEASED BY HIS CAPTORS UNHARMED THE NIGHT OF JUNE 26-27 IN SAN SALVADOR. HE WAS REPORTEDLY FOUND IN HIS CAR HANDCUFFED AND WITH A BLINDFOLD OVER HIS EYES. THE WOMAN (DELMY MAZARIEGO) WHO HAD BEEN KIDNAPPED ALONG WITH HIM THE SEVENING OF JUNE 22 HAD BEEN RELEASED A FEW HOURS LATER THAT SAME NIGHT (JUNE 22).
- 2. AS YET NO DETAILS HAVE SURFACED PUBLICLY ABOUT THE ABDUCTION. THE JUNE 27 EDITION OF OPPOSITION "LA CRONICA" STATED THAT "EXTRA-OFFICIALLY", IT HAD BEEN INFORMED THAT SANDOVAL HAD BEEN PICKED UP BY SECURITY FORCES IN CONNECTION WITH THE INVESTIGATION OF THE KIDNAPPINGS LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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PAGE 02 SAN SA 03334 300556Z

OF LUIS MENDEZ NOVOA AND ERNESTO SOL MEZA. SANDOVAL WAS APPARENTLY AT THE HOTEL SHERATON ATTENDING THE SAME DINNER DURING THE MAY 14 KIDNAPPINGS OF MENDEZ NOVOA AND SOL MEZA. A HIGH-RANKING MEMBER OF THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF PRIVATE ENTERPRISE (ANEP)
DID TELL POLITICAL OFFICER THAT THE ABDUCTION HAD BEEN CARRIED OUT BY "RIGHTEST" RATHER THAN "LEFTIST" ELEMENTS.

3. IN A CONVERSATION WITH ARSO ON JUNE 28, SANDOVAL STATED THAT HE HAD BEEN HANDCUFFED AND BLINDFOLDED DURING THE WHOLE TIME OF HIS CAPTIVITY AND HAD NO DEFINITE IDEA OF WHERE HE HAD BEEN HELD. SANDOVAL ALSO SAID THAT DURING THE WHOLE TIME NO MENTION WAS MADE BY HIS ABDUCTORS CONCERNING TERRORIST GROUPS OR THE LOCAL SECURITY FORCES. HE DID SAY THAT HE HAD BEEN QUESTIONED EXTENSIVELY ON THE WAGES AND SALARIES PAID BY MCCANN ERICKSON AROUND LATIN AMERICA. ACCORDING TO ARSO, SANDOVAL LEFT EL SALVADOR FOR MIAMI THE MORNING OF JUNE 29 IN ORDER TO ATTEND A MEETING OF MCCANN/ERICKSON OFFICIALS.

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Subject: KIDNAP VICTIM RELEASED BY HIS ABDUCTORS TAGS: PINT, PINS, SHUM, ASEC, ES, (SANDOVAL, MAURICIO)

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